

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claims 2, 9, 14, 17 and 20-25 AMEND claims 1, 3, 5, 8, 9, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18 and 19 in accordance with the following:

1. (currently amended) A client apparatus for displaying a page made in a markup language by a browser, comprising:

a comment information appending unit appending desired comment information to any arbitrary place of graphical information in said page;

a comment information separating unit separating said comment information appended by the comment information appending unit from said page;

a comment information storing unit storing said comment information separated by the comment information separating unit; and

a comment information merging unit merging said comment information stored by the comment information storing unit.

2. (cancelled)

3. (currently amended) A client apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said desired comment information is appended to said place by ~~displaying it in at least one of either a specified tag of the markup language, a~~ adding the desired comment information to specified ~~character string or graphical information as~~ at the arbitrary place for the markup language that is being displayed in the client apparatus at present and also by merging a specified tag and displaying ~~it~~ on a browser.

4. (original) A client apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said comment information consists of at least one of either character string information, graphical information, signature/certification information or hypertext link information, and it can be distributed, jointly owned or transferred via a network or a recording medium.

5. (currently amended) A client apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein said comment information includes in the hypertext link information ~~includes~~ a shortcut function to a network or a bookmark function to a Web page.

6. (original) A client apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein said specified tag includes, as tag information, not only link information to call said comment information when said place is clicked on, but also at least one of anchor mark information appended to said place, or information about pointer-shape variation occurring according to the pointer movement to said place.

7. (original) A client apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the comment information separating unit retains, as said comment information, at least place information of the comment information, comment text, expression information of said place and address information of the page including said place.

8. (currently amended) A client apparatus according to Claim 7, wherein the comment information merging unit obtains the page including said place based on the comment information read from the comment information unit, said place of this obtained page is merged with ~~said a~~ specialized tag and displayed on the browser, and at least said comment is merged with said page and displayed on the browser when said place of this displayed page is clicked on.

9. (currently amended) A recording medium recording a program for a client apparatus that displays a page made by a markup language using a browser, executing following processes:

appending desired comment information to a desired place of graphical information on the page of the markup language that is being viewed with a browser;

separating said comment information from the markup language in said page;

storing said separated comment information; and

merging the stored comment information with a desired page of said markup language.

10. (cancelled)

11. (original) A recording medium according to Claim 9, wherein said comment information consists of at least one of either character string information, graphical information, signature/certification information or hypertext link information, and it can be distributed, jointly owned or transferred via a network or a recording medium.

12. (currently amended) A recording medium according to Claim 9, wherein said comment information includes in the hypertext link information ~~includes~~ a shortcut function to a network or a bookmark function to a Web page.

13. (currently amended) A client apparatus that displays a page made in a markup language, comprising:

a storing unit storing comment information associated with a related page, said comment information including address information of the related page, specified place information in said page, and comment text;

a judging unit judging whether there is any comment information related to a page; and

a display controlling unit setting said page and said comment information in association with the specified place information in said page that can be displayed by said client apparatus when there is said comment information related to said page.

14. (cancelled)

15. (currently amended) A client apparatus according to Claim ~~14~~ 13, wherein the display controlling unit displays comment text corresponding to said specified place information according to an instruction that specified place information in a displayed page should be detected.

16. (currently amended) A recording medium recording a program executed by a client apparatus that displays a page made in a markup language, executing the following processes:

judging whether there is any comment information related to said page~~[[.]]~~; and

~~setting-storing~~ said page and said comment information ~~that can be displayed for display~~ by said client apparatus in association with specified place information in said page when there is any comment information related to said page, said comment information including address information of a related page, the specified place information in said page, and comment text.

17. (cancelled)

18. (currently amended) A recording medium recording said program according to Claim ~~17~~ 16, wherein said program ~~displaying~~ displays comment text corresponding to said specified place information according to an instruction that specified place information in a displayed page should be detected.

19. (currently amended) A display method for displaying a comment as well as a page made in a markup language, ~~executing the following processes comprising:~~

judging whether there is any comment information related to the displayed page;

setting the page and the comment information that can be displayed by the client apparatus when there is any comment information related to the page; and

displaying the comment information corresponding to the instructed place according to an instruction that said displayed page should be detected.

20-25: (cancelled)